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ABSTRACT

This manual is designed to help librarians anticipate and resist censorship of library materials, how to handle complaints, and how to write legislators effectively. Part I, "Library Bill of Rights," and Part II, "Protecting the Freedom to Read," present the text and historical development of the American Library Association's (ALA) intellectual freedom policies, including interpretative discussions of: barriers to information access based on age, gender, sexual orientation, physical disability, or economic disadvantage; diversity in the library collection; patron confidentiality, and developing guidelines for user behavior. Advance preparations for censorship resistance, like developing policy and procedures and raising public awareness of intellectual freedom, are covered in the third section. Part III also features the articles "Public Relations: Crisis Communications" (Jeanne Thorsen) and "Pressure Groups: Politics, Religion, and Censorship in Libraries" (Carol Neilsen). Part IV, "Intellectual Freedom: An All Embracing Concept," assembles essays discussing intellectual freedom issues in various settings, including: public libraries (Gordon M. Conable); school library media centers (Dianne McAfee Hopkins); academic libraries (Paul B. Cors); federal libraries (Bernadine Abbott Hoduski); and state library agencies (Diana Young). The section entitled "Intellectual Freedom and the Law" includes: (1) "School Library Censorship and the Courts: Before Hazelwood" (William D. North); (2) "School Library Censorship and the Courts: After Hazelwood" (Robert S. Peck); (3) "The Buckley Amendment: Student Privacy versus Parents' Right to Know" (Anne Levinson Penway); and "Public Libraries as Limited Public Fora for Access to Information" (Anne Levinson Penway). The types of censorship-fighting assistance that are provided by ALA and state intellectual freedom committees are offered in Part VI, along with the essay "Lobbying for Intellectual Freedom" (Carol C. Henderson). A selected bibliography contains 23 recommended readings. (BEW)

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